MR. K. A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Todupuzha* cum *Devicolam*): Sir, before we proceed to the next item in the agenda, I request the permission of the Chair to make a statement regarding an answer given by the Director of Public Instruction day before yesterday. He said that he did not remember to have given any assurance, to this House, that the three clerks disbanded in 1110 will be re-entertained, when the supplementary grant for the restoration of those clerks was moved. With your permission, Sir, I may be allowed to read the following passage from the speech of the Director reported at page 108 of Vol. VII, No. 2, Assembly Proceedings.

> "As regards three more clerks for the office of the Director of Public Instruction they are not newly to be appointed, but only to be restored. The three clerks who were there in 1110, were disbanded at the close of the year, because their appointment was only temporary."

And he goes on and says—

> ".....it is the barest minimum that I am asking for when I say that the three clerks who were in existence in 1110 may be continued."

Then, on page 110, in answer to a question by Mr. A. Thanu Pillai, he said:—

> "May I point out that I am not asking for more clerks? I am asking only for the clerks who have been taken away."

Then, on page 127, he says, in answer to another question by Mr. A. S. Damodaran Asan:—

> "There were three temporary clerks in 1110. They were taken away in 1111. All that I am now asking for is the restoration of those three clerks."

Now, Sir, if the speech referred to above means anything, it means that the Director wanted to restore those clerks who were sent out in 1110. Or else I do not understand what English language means. What I submit is that no great amount of knowledge of English language or any Oxonian degree or any stretch of imagination is necessary to prove what the Director meant was to restore those clerks who were sent out in 1110. The words he used are simple and the meaning is plain. It would convince every one that his appeal to this House was to re-entertain those clerks. Thus the answer he gave day before yesterday in this open House is clearly opposed to the idea contained in his speech referred to. So I would request you, Sir, to enquire what the action of the Director means in this respect.

PRESIDENT: What is it? Is it a point of order for the Chair to interfere? What I was able to understand from the member is that he wants to point out that a certain statement which the Director of Public Instruction has made on the floor of the House was inconsistent and that it was not a statement similar to the one made in the previous session. That is all.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): The point that has arisen is to call upon the Government members to answer with a certain amount of responsibility.

PRESIDENT: The Chair had always called upon members to answer with every sense of responsibility.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Hear, hear.

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MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): Sir, may I make an explanation in reply to the statement ?

PRESIDENT: Yes.

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): All that I asked for in my speech was the restoration of the three *posts*.

MR. K. A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Todupuzha* cum *Devicotam*): No, Sir. It was definitely stated as three clerks.

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): I cannot say without notice who were the men that were sent away and who have come back. I do not know whether the member is in order in making this statement. He has sprung it in the Assembly and on myself without giving me sufficient time to furnish the information. I can assure the House that the three clerks who have been restored are men who have the best acting claims. Whether they were clerks who were sent away in 1110 or not I cannot say on the spur of the moment. In the speech I made, which was referred to, I asked for the restoration of the posts. I did not give a guarantee to Mr. K. A. Narayana Pillai that I would reappoint the same three men.

MR. K. A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Todupuzha* cum *Devicolam*): Sir, I rise to a point of order. I never said that he assured me. What I said was that he assured the House.

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): When I assured the House it follows that I assured Mr. K A. Narayana Pillai as an honorable member of the House. It was quite clear that the work in the office was suffering a great deal for want of three hands. I wanted to restore those posts. If more facts about those clerks who were sent away were required, I would have given them to Mr. K. A. Narayana Pillai, if he had asked for them in the proper way.

PRESIDENT: I do not think the Director had the intention of making anything like a deliberate false statement. Restoration of the clerks may mean the restoration of the same clerks or the restoration of the posts of the three clerks. It may mean both. However, the Director assures that he had no intention of misleading or misguiding the House.

We will now resume discussion on the Bill.

THE TRAVANCORE AGRICULTURISTS' RELIEF BILL.—(*contd.*)

Clause 3—(*contd*)

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): Sir, I beg to move the following amendment:—

> "*In Clause 3, sub-clause (1) (b), delete the words "Our Government shall define" and substitute the words "The territorial jurisdiction of a District Munsiff's Court shall be"*.

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